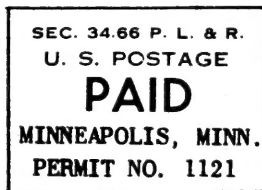
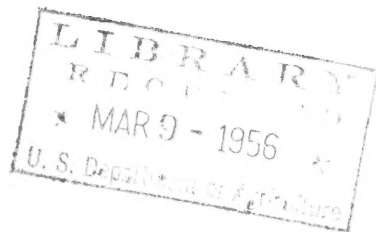


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THOMSEN'S

Garden Hints

THOMSEN'S NURSERY & SEED STORE
4720 Hiawatha Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

1956



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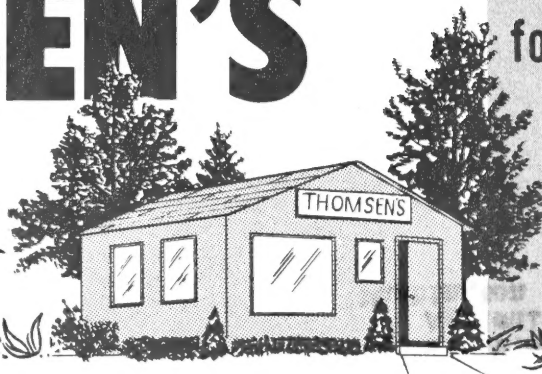
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Customers in Minnesota, Dakotas, Wisconsin and Iowa should seed the lawn if possible in the last part of March. In Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania about 2 weeks before, weather permitting. Therefore it is important that you order your seeds early.

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THOMSEN'S

Garden Hints



A Monthly Guide
for the Home Gardener

4720 HIAWATHA
MINNEAPOLIS

FOR EXPERT ADVICE
PHONE: PA4-9200

DEDICATED TO HELP THE HOME GARDENER HELP HIMSELF IN A LANGUAGE HE UNDERSTANDS

Revolutionary and startling new methods coming up this spring in the interest of finer lawns.

1956 will be known as the year of real progress in lawn maintenance that before was a real headache. The Home Gardener will want to know about this - and it will pay for him to know it. Two new turf treatments are outstanding: one is the Aerifyer, the other the Verticut Machine. This is what it will do and WHY. Most lawns are hard as a rock, too much clay and packed too hard with bulldozers. Grass burns out easily because rain and sprinkling RUNS OFF. The soil is not porous enough. It is especially bad on ground facing South or on slopes and boulevards. Our Aerifyer takes out a plug 1/2 inch wide and 3" deep, thereby allowing all the water to STAY PUT, instead of running off. The benefit is most apparent and the treatment will be the common thing this season. It also eliminates the need for TOPDRESSING with soil as the plugs may be raked in and thereby act as a seed bed for your lawn seed, and you save the cost of topdressing soil. We will recommend, however, that Horticultural Peat Moss be used because it acts as an absorber and keeper of moisture, fertilizer and seed. It is weedfree, completely neutral, testing 6.5 P.H., and very easy to apply by the Home Gardener. One bale per 1000 feet is standard.

The other machine is the Verticut and it closes a gap long tolerated in lawn maintenance. In the spring most lawns are matted and no air is allowed to infiltrate into the turf. This is an ideal condition for FUNGUS disease, usually seen all over as soon as the snow disappears. It is called SNOWMOLD; later in the season a new variety appears, called BROWN PATCH. These both do much more damage than people realize. The Verticut machine hits the turf with many short sharp knives, thereby opening up the turf for air circulation and stopping the damaging matted condition. Fertilizer, lawn seed and peat moss may be ideally raked in at the same time, thus preventing these materials from running off. This remarkable tool is the perfect answer.

Now, when should above two operations best be done? As soon as it is possible to get into the soil in the spring. Spring is, in our experience, the best time of the year to treat the lawn. Lawn seed is best applied on the last snow or immediately following. The Cost? This would have to be estimated as lot sizes vary, and costs of seed and fertilizer. Call for your free estimate early as we are always rushed as soon as the sun tells us spring is here.

The third treatment is Crab Grass Control. The Heat Method is the only known method by which crab grass seed can be destroyed for sure and is not to be confused with the negligible result obtained from chemical crab grass killers. None of these are more than 60% to 70% effective and always leave enough seed to reinfest the lawn. Our heat treatment kills every seed above ground in a matter of minutes, and may be done in early spring until May 15 and from August 15 until the snow flies. Of course, birds and wind may bring in new seeds, or they could come from uncertified soil, but it is a great stride in the right direction.

The fourth Must in production of fine Minnesota lawns is our special "Minnehaha Prand Grass Seed". A turf is as good as the seed and this brand, sold exclusively by our store, is the ultimate in quality and performance. We guarantee that no lawn seed can excel this in finer seed blends. This is a good time to buy it as all readers of THOMSEN'S GARDEN HINTS are entitled to 5% off the regular price up to and including April 1st. Order early. We deliver free and estimate your needs free. You may mix the fertilizer with the seed and apply it together for convenience. We will mix it for you if you wish. To prevent fungus disease, you may also mix a good fungicide with it, like CAPTAIN or TERZAN.

Prices on products mentioned:

MINNEHAHA BRAND GRASS SEED - all perennial seeds of four strains. 1 pound - \$1.65, 3 pounds - \$4.85, 5 pounds - \$7.95.

MINNEHAHA BRAND ASTORIA GRASS SEED - well known to our customers. 1 pound - \$1.85, 3 pounds - \$5.45, 5 pounds - \$9.15, 10 pounds - \$17.95, 20 pounds - \$34.00.

HORTICULTURAL PEAT MOSS - Standard Bale - \$6.50

CAPTAIN FUNGICIDE - 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ can - \$1.50

TERZAN FUNGICIDE - 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ can - \$1.25

GRASS GROWER FERTILIZER 8-8-6 - 100 pounds - \$5.50

LOMA 5-10-5 FERTILIZER - 100 pounds - \$4.95

MILORGANITE 4-6-0 FERTILIZER - 100 pounds - \$4.50

THOMSEN CERTIFIED TOPDRESSING SOIL - 2 yards - \$8.00, 3 yards - \$10.50, 4 yards - \$13.50,
5 yards - \$15.50, 6 yards - \$18.00.

ROTTED MANURE FOR FINER GARDENING - per yard - \$4.00. Not less than 2 yards delivered, but may be picked up at store.

COVERING HAY - We still have hay for covering if necessary in the critical spring. Bale - \$1.25.

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

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Many customers ask us how much seed to use on a given area. It depends on the seed in question, number of seeds per pound and the germination. If the MINNEHAHA BRAND PERENNIAL SEED is used on a lawn in a fair condition, use 3 to 4 pounds per 1000 square feet. If using MINNEHAHA BRAND ASTORIA GRASS SEED, use 2 to 3 pounds per 1000 square feet. The poorer the turf the more seed is required. A new lawn will take exactly double. BUT DON'T USE TOO MUCH EITHER. Too much or too little will ruin everything. It is proper to use 100 pounds of above fertilizers for the average 40 foot lot. To improve your Flower Border use Horticultural Peat Moss for your organic application and a small amount of 5-10-5 inorganic like Loma, Grass Grower, etc. In hot summers use RAPIDGRO liquid fertilizer to help the plants over the hump.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

It is time to plant TUBEROUS BEGONIAS now. Use special soil mixture with at least 50% Peat Moss. Started now, they will bloom in June and all summer. We have fine bulbs, peat and pots for you. Cloxinias and caladiums may be started now, also. Use same care as with tuberous begonias. Our packet FLOWER SEEDS are now on display. May we suggest that you pick up your supply as soon as possible, so you can start them soon. We also have the flats and soil. Incidentally, we have a miniature small greenhouse or propagation house, to be adopted for home use. It is very ornamental and made of red wood. May be used for starting plants from cuttings like African Violets and other plants. May also be used to start seeds and bulbs. It is filled with vermiculite - \$6.95.

ROSES - Many roses were frozen or flooded out this winter. Order your supply early.

REMEMBER - Nitrogen in fertilizers produces dark green, luscious, soft leaves. Phosphorous is responsible for the flowers, and potash for the seed formation. That is why the right kind of fertilizer is important.